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Message Text

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12
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 /140 R

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R 201417Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USINT DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JO, U.S.
SUBJECT: US-JORDANIAN RELATIONS
1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE RE ALLEGED STRAIN IN RELA-
TIONS BETWEEN JORDAN AND US PREPARED FOR CONTINGENCY USE BY
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PORTIONS IF QUERIED THIS SUBJECT:

QUOTE: THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS REPORTS, MOST OF THEM CITING BEIRUT PRESS SOURCES, TO THE EFFECT THAT THERE IS A RIFT OR STRAIN IN OUR RELATIONS WITH JORDAN. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OCCASION CATEGORICALLY TO DENY ALL OF THESE REPORTS. THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO RIFT, STRAIN, OR CRISIS IN OUR RELATIONS WITH JORDAN AND NO GROUNDS FOR ANY TALK OF SUCH. IN THIS REGARD I WOULD ALSO REFER YOU TO THE FEBRUARY 19 STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI IN WHICH HE ALSO DENIED THESE STORIES AND CHARACTERIZED U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONS AS "EXCELLENT AND UNMARRED BY ANY BLEMISHES."

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT KING HUSSEIN'S PLANS TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES? DO YOU HAVE A DATE YET?

ANSWER: WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN ON THIS MATTER.

QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THE UNITED STATES REJECTED JORDAN'S REQUEST FOR DOLS. 1.4 BILLION IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE BUT OFFERED A DOLS 243 MILLION PROGRAM?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT COMMENT ON THE SPECIFICS OF OUR MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIPS WITH MIDDLE EASTERN STATES. HOWEVER, WE DO HAVE AN ONGOING MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH JORDAN WHICH WILL NOT ONLY BE CONTINUED, BUT STRENGTHENED IN THE FUTURE.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT THE SUGGESTION THAT THE UNITED STATES WANTS TO WEAKEN KING HUSSEIN, PREFERRING TO DEAL WITH PRESIDENT SADAT?

ANSWER: THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO TRUTH TO THESE ALLEGATIONS. AS THE SECRETARY STATED IN AMMAN, THE UNITED STATES AND JORDAN HAVE BEEN PARTNERS FOR MANY YEARS AND WE INTEND TO BE PARTNERS IN MAKING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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QUESTION: IS THERE ANY TRUTH TO REPORTS THAT THE USG HAD ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTURBANCES IN THE JORDANIAN ARMY BUT FAILED TO INFORM KING HUSSEIN?

ANSWER: ABSOLUTELY NONE. KISSINGER

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